GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1027
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2001
GROWTH RATE OF INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK;SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether six infrastructure sectors recorded a virtually nil growth for 2000-01;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; Sector-wise;

(c) the estimated growth rate and actual growth rate in coal, petroleum, cement, electricity and steel for above period; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase the growth rate in infrastructure sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH)

(a) to (d): A statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION. NO. 1027 FOR 27.07. 2001.

(a)&(b): No, Sir. The six infrastructure sectors have recorded a growth rate of 5.3% during the fiscal year 2000-01.

(c): The annual targets and the actual production for six infrastructure sectors during the fiscal year 2000-01 are as under:

Sector	Unit	Target	Actual	% change over the target
Crude Petroleum	Th. Tonnes	32464	32477	0.04
Petroleum Refinery Products	Th. Tonnes	112823	96246	-14.69
Coal	MT	308.07	309.20	0.37
Electricity	BU	500.70	499.47	-0.25
Cement	Lakh Tonnes	1070	995.20	-6.99
Finished Steel	Th. Tonnes	34760	30205.30	-13.10

(d): The following measures have been initiated to improve the infrastructure sector:

- Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has been allowed to float capital gains tax exemption bonds.

- The budgetary provisions under Accelerated Power Development Programme (APDP) have been enhanced for the year 2001-02 towards: 1) the Renovation and Modernisation / life extension of existing power stations, 2) Upgradation of transmission & distribution networking including energy accounting and metering.

- The Government has signed MOU with six states, other states will follow, to reform SEBs and initiate steps which include time bound Programme for installation of 100% metering by December 2001, energy audit at all levels, specific programmes for reduction and eventual elimination of power theft.

- Government is providing infrastructure support to cement industry to maximize cement production. Rail wagons are provided to cement plants on priority basis to supply cement to deficit areas.

- Customs duty on cement and clinker reduced from 35% to 25%.

- Tax holiday for infrastructure development. In case of ports, airports, inland ports and waterways, industrial parks, generation and distribution of power, tax holiday of ten years has been announced in the Union Budget 2001-02. Five-year tax holiday for the telecommunication sector has been extended till March 2003.

- A dedicated fund from cess on petrol and diesel has been created for road building.